

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A network system, comprising:

a distributed network system; /

a network processor ⁴ said processor being connected to said network; /

system data ⁴ storage, said processor being connected to said system data storage;

5 and

administrator data packets including contact telephone data and voice packets, said network processor receiving alert data including one or more of status data, fault data and error data and sending selected packets in response to said alert data including voice packets.

10 2. A network system according to claim 1, further comprising:

a telephone line ⁴ network interface connected to a public ⁸ telephone line and connected to said network, said network ⁴ processor sending packets to said telephone line network interface for initiating a call based on said contact telephone data.

15 3. A network system according to claim 2, wherein said voice packets are converted to analogue voice signals at said telephone line network interface for said call

4. A network system according to claim 1, further comprising:

a plurality of network telephones, each network telephone being connected to said network and sending packets to and receiving packets from said network, including control packets from the network processor and telephone voice packets, said network processor monitoring a network telephone system including said network, and said network telephones, said network processor sending packets to said network including address data, as said contact telephone data, for one or more of said network telephones for initiating a call based on said address data and for converting said voice packets to analogue voice signals at said one or more of said network telephones for said call.

5. A network system according to claim 1, further comprising:

a network telephone connected to said network via an Internet gateway, said network telephone sending packets to and receiving packets from said network via said gateway, including control packets from said network processor and telephone voice packets, said network processor sending packets to said network including address data, as said contact telephone data, for said network telephone connected to said network via the Internet gateway for initiating a call based on said address data and for converting said voice packets to analogue voice signals at said one or more of said network telephones for said call.

6. A network system according to claim 1, further comprising:

a network device connected to said network, said network device sending packets to and receiving packets from said network, said network processor sending packets to

said network device including address data, as said contact telephone data, for said network device for initiating a voice message based on said address data and for converting said voice packets to analogue voice signals at said network device.

7. A network system according to claim 1, further comprising:

5 a network device connected to said network, said network device sending packets to and receiving packets from said network, said network device being operatively connected to a paging system, said network processor sending packets to said network device including address data, as said contact telephone data, for said network device for initiating a voice message based on said address data and for converting said voice packets to analogue voice signals at a device and for initiating a page at said paging system.

8. A network system according to claim 1, further comprising:

10 a network device connected to said network and a software interface providing a display of data in said data storage, said data including settings data and preferences for changing at least said contact telephone data and for associating voice messages comprised of said voice data with one or more of potential status data, fault data, error data or types of status data, fault data or error data and established criteria.

15 9. A network system according to claim 8, wherein said software interface is a graphical user interface for establishing settings and preferences including defined criteria

for sending administrator data packets.

10. A network system according to claim 8, wherein said voice data includes a plurality of message prompts whereby said software interface allows selection of one or more of said prompts for sending upon defined criteria being reached by said network system.

11. A network system according to claim 8, wherein said defined criteria includes one or more of disk space status, memory status, error messages and connection status.

12. A network system according to claim 4, wherein at least one of said network telephones provides a display of at least some data in said data storage, said data including settings data and preferences for changing at least said contact telephone data and for associating voice messages comprised of said voice packets with potential status data, fault data or error data or types of status data, fault data or error data.

~~13.~~ A network telephone system comprising:
a distributed network; {
a network ⁴call processor connected to said network, said network call processor
having a ⁴⁰memory for system settings and administration information;
a ²²telephone line network interface connected to a ³⁰telephone line and connected to
said network;

a plurality of network telephones, each network telephone being connected to said network and sending packets to and receiving packets from the network, including control packets from the network call processor and telephone voice packets from telephone line signals at said telephone line network interface, said network call processor monitoring said system and issuing a notification upon the system reaching one or more defined criteria, wherein the notification includes sending one of several prompts from the network call processor to one of the network telephones, a telephone connected via a public system or a connected computer or network device and said prompt includes voice data providing an audio message.

14. A network system according to claim 13, further comprising a line card connected to a public telephone line and connected to said network, said network processor sending packets to said telephone line card for initiating a call or connection based on said contact telephone data wherein said network includes an Ethernet path having a collision domain with said network telephones connected thereto and further comprising another Ethernet path having a collision domain providing a connection between said network call processor and said line card, said another Ethernet path being connected to said Ethernet path.

15. A network system according to claim 13, further comprising a network server with data storage, said network call processor being connected to said server.

16. A network process, comprising:

providing a network system including a network processor, system data storage
and devices connected to the network;

monitoring at least the status of the network system with the network processor;

and

issuing an alert voice message including sending voice packets with voice data
saved in system data storage based on contact telephone data saved in the system data
storage.

17. A network process according to claim 16, wherein said system includes a
telephone line network interface connected to said network and providing a connection
to a public telephone system, said network processor being a network call processor
sending packets to said telephone line network interface for initiating a call based on said
contact telephone data and for converting said voice packets to analogue voice signals at
said telephone line network interface for said call.

18. A network process according to claim 16, wherein said system includes a
plurality of network telephones, each network telephone being connected to said network
and sending packets to and receiving packets from said network and said processor is a
network call processor monitoring a network telephone system, said network call
processor sending packets to said network including address data, as said contact
telephone data, for one or more of said network telephones for initiating a call based on

said address data and for converting said voice packets to analogue voice signals at said one or more of said network telephones for said call.

19. A network process according to claim 16, wherein said processor is a network call processor monitoring a network telephone system including a network telephone connected to said network via an Internet gateway, said network telephone sending packets to and receiving packets from said network via said gateway, said network call processor sending packets to said network including address data, as said contact telephone data, for said network telephone connected to said network via the Internet gateway for initiating a call based on said address data and for converting said voice packets to analogue voice signals at said one or more of said network telephones for said call.

20. A network process according to claim 16, wherein said network includes a network device connected to said network, said network device sending packets to and receiving packets from said network, said network processor sending packets to said network device including address data, as said contact telephone data, for said network device for initiating a voice message based on said address data and for converting said voice packets to analogue voice signals at said network device.

21. A network process according to claim 16, wherein said network includes a network device connected to said network, said network device sending packets to and

receiving packets from said network, said network device being operatively connected to a paging system, said network call processor sending packets to said network device including address data, as said contact telephone data, said network device providing a audio page.

5 22. A network process according to claim 16, further comprising the steps of:
providing a software interface at a network device;
providing a display of selected portions of data in said data storage, said data
including settings data and preferences;
changing contact telephone data;
10 setting or making preferences, with the software interface associating voice
messages comprised of said voice data with potential status data, fault data or error data
or types of status data, fault data or error data.

10 23. A network process according to claim 22, wherein said software interface
includes a web browser and web pages accessible from said data storage based on an
15 address associated with the network.

24. A network process according to claim 22, wherein said voice data includes a
plurality of message prompts whereby said software interface allows selection of one or
more of said prompts, for sending to one or more network audio playing device, based on
said contact telephone data, upon defined criteria being reached by said network system.

25. A network process according to claim 24, wherein at least some of said message prompts are prerecorded and precorrelated with defined criteria for sending administrator data packets.

26. A network process according to claim 18, further comprising:

5 providing a display of at least some data in said data storage at least one of said network telephones.

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